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give us a condensed summary of the more important sections of the book and thus render possible for it a wider circulation and a greater influence. Great credit is due both the author and the publisher, Dr. Taylor, for the preparation of a work of high educational value.

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Traité élémentaire de Législation Industrielle. Les Lois ouvrières. By PAUL PIC. Second edition. Pp. xi, 1065. Price, 12.50fr. Paris: Arthur Rousseau, 1903.

Readers not familiar with the peculiar meaning of the French "législation industrielle" are apt to be led astray by a literal translation of this expression, which, as a matter of fact, applies to the laws of industrial property, patents, copyrights, etc. It is for this reason that the author has added the sub-title "Labor Laws" to the present volume, thus indicating that he proposes to deal with the laws governing the conditions of labor, the nature and form of the wage-contract, legal provisions with regard to conflicts between employers and employees, labor insurance, etc. This volume, in other words, gives an account of all those tutelary measures by which nations have endeavored to improve the conditions of the working classes through systematic intervention in industrial affairs.

In the "Introduction" to the book, the author discusses the attitude of economists of the various schools toward the principle of intervention. This is followed by a sketch of labor legislation from the beginning down to the present century. Here begins the systematic part of the book, devoted to a detailed statement of, and commentaries on, the present laws governing labor. Of the four sections of this part of the book, the first concerns the "administrative regulation of industry" and discusses the freedom of contract, laws regarding coalitions, trades unions and productive associations, factory hygiene, monopolies, regulated industries, child labor, female labor, and the limitations on adult male labor.

The second section treats of apprenticeship, the wage-contract, domestic labor, the sweating system, etc. The third is devoted to the institutions and methods devised for preventing industrial conflicts between employers and laborers, and for terminating these conflicts when once they have broken out. The fourth and last section deals with those social institutions, due to the influence both of the State and of private initiative, which aim to improve the economic, legal, and moral condition of the workman or employee; it discusses saving, co-operation, and labor insurance.

The whole book is an excellent specimen of that clearness of style, that attractiveness of presentation, and that love of system, which characterize French scholarship. With a widening and accelerating tendency everywhere for legal authorities to interfere in the industrial world, and a growing disposition on the part of social reformers to accept and apply the principle of mutual

responsibility among the members of society, there is need for a careful systematic survey of the whole field such as Professor Pic has tried to give us.

Those economists and sociologists who believe in the existence of uniform laws of social development applicable to all nations will find valuable material in support of this doctrine in the striking similarity in the labor laws of most civilized nations, even in the absence of conscious imitation. Six important aims underlie the laws of nearly all nations with regard to the control of industrial life. (1) They aim to provide employers and laborers with permanent means for bringing their demands to the attention of public authorities, by the creation of "labor bureaus," industrial commissions, and boards of arbitration and conciliation of one sort or another. (2) In order to bring about more perfect equality and harmony between laborers as a class and employers as a class, they encourage the formation of organizations of laborers, of capitalists, or of laborers and capitalists together. (3) They lay down certain rules in the interest of safety and hygiene, and undertake to protect certain classes of laborers against the undue exploitation of employers or against their own carelessness and improvidence. The systematic endeavor to accomplish this results, necessarily, in the creation of a class of officials charged with the enforcement of these protective laws,—such as factory inspectors, health officers, etc. (4) They subject contracts to a system of restrictions designed either to establish general rules for their legal interpretation, or to protect the wages of labor from all manner of encroachments, such as the truck system, undue fines and penalties, irregular payments, etc. (5) They set up courts with special powers and jurisdiction, to settle industrial conflicts between employers and employees. (6) They favor the development of all institutions for improving the condition of the workingman,—such as co-operative associations, building and loan associations, savings banks, homestead laws, workmen's insurance.

In carrying out his elaborate programme, the author extends the scope of his investigations to the following countries: France, England, the United States, Switzerland, Belgium, Austria, Germany, Russia, Holland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and the British Colonies.

The chief qualities, manifestly, which such a book as this should possess are accuracy and completeness. So far as I have been able to judge from a careful examination of the parts of the book relating to American conditions, it is entirely accurate—so far as it goes. The author could not, of course, present American conditions so exhaustively as those of his own country. Particularly the fourth section is too sketchy in its nature. The book, nevertheless, is really indispensable to students of labor legislation, and throws a flood of light on the difficult but pressing problem of determining what the State, *i. e.*, organized society, can and should do to preserve social peace and establish social justice. The exceptionally complete bibliographical references scattered throughout the large volume give additional value to what is probably the most complete and authoritative work of its kind.

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